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the summit. Inflorescence as in *U. laxa* (*U. gracilis*), but with the main axis and branches stouter and more rigid, and the spikelets somewhat larger.

Little Stone Mountain, DeKalb county, Georgia, July (John K. Small); Florida (Curtiss N. Am. Pl., No. 3521); Mississippi (S. M. Tracy); Hiawassee Valley, Tenn. (A. Ruth); Tullahoma, Middle Tenn. (A. Gattinger).

Death of Dr. Thomas Morong.

Dr. Thomas Morong, Curator of the Herbarium of Columbia College, and a Vice President of the Club, died at his son's home in Boston, Mass., April 26th, 1894, after an illness of some four months. An account of his life and botanical works will appear in the June number of the BULLETIN.

Botanical Notes.

A New Systematic Botany of North America is announced under the editorship of George F. Atkinson, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.; Nathaniel L.Britton, Columbia College, New York City; John M. Coulter, Lake Forest University, Lake Forest, Ill.; Frederick V. Coville, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.; Edward L. Greene, University of California, Berkeley, Cal.; Byron D. Halsted, Rutgers College, New Brunswick, N. J.; Arthur Hollick, Columbia College, New York City, and Lucien M. Underwood, De Pauw University, Greencastle, Ind. The editors are already assured of the coöperation of over forty American botanists.

The general sequence of orders will be based on that adopted by Professors Engler and Prantl in their "Natürliche Pflanzenfamilien," now approaching completion, and the work will be divided into seventeen volumes, and issued in parts averaging about 100 pages each. About five of these parts will constitute each volume. Printed schemes giving the proposed sequence of orders and contents of volumes may be had on application to the Chairman of the Board of Editors.

No illustration is contemplated, but copious references to published plates and figures will be made a feature. In addition to the technical characterizations, chapters dealing with the economic, palæontologic and horticultural aspects of each order will be appended. Especial attention will be given to the verification of original descriptions, to the examination of type specimens, to the citation of type localities and to geographical distribution.

No attempt will be made to treat the groups consecutively, but the sequence of orders being tentatively established in advance, and the number of genera and species being approximately known, it is possible to print parts of all the volumes, or of as many of them as is desired, at about the same time. It is hoped that five or six parts can be issued annually, beginning in 1895. Several parts are already in preparation.

Each monographer will be responsible for his own matter, the only restrictions placed on contributors being that they conform to a general style, to principles of nomenclature and to citations, and that descriptions be extended only to an average limit of a certain number of words, this number to be hereafter determined. The treatment of these matters will be indicated by sample sheets which will be distributed at an early date. It is expected that an approximately uniform consideration of species can be secured.

The editors believe that by prosecuting the work in the manner above indicated, it will be possible to produce a complete Systematic Botany of the country within fifteen years. They fully realize the impracticability of such a task being accomplished by a few students only, and earnestly desire the aid and support of all American botanists. Inquiries and communications may be addressed to any of the editors.

N. L. BRITTON,
Chairman.

CRATÆGUS PUNCTATA CANESCENS n. var.—Under this name I characterize a thorn collected by Dr. Thos. C. Porter at Easton, Pa., and by the late Dr. Robbins at Ferrisburg, Vt. The specimens differ markedly from the type in having the lower surfaces of the leaves, as well as the petioles, peduncles and pedicels, densely white-tomentose. N. L. BRITTON.

Reviews.

Fossil Cycadean Trunks of North America, with a Revision of the Genus Cycadeoidea Buckland. Lester F. Ward (Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash. 9: 75–87. April 9, 1894).

The author has here gathered together such information as was available regarding fossil cycad trunks found in America. They have been found in the trias of North Carolina and Prince Edward Island and in the lower cretaceous of Maryland and the West. An interesting discovery, showing the value of fossil plants in the correlation of strata, is briefly alluded to. In the Geology of the Black Hills, by Newton & Jenney, no strata below the middle cretaceous (Dakota Group) are recognized. The presence of cycad trunks, however, led the author to infer that strata representing an older geological horizon, must be represented there. An expedition to the locality was accordingly made in company with Prof. Jenney, during the past year, with the result that a conclusion was reached that while the upper part of the strata in question undoubtedly represent the Dakota Group, the lower part probably extend down to the base of the cretaceous—an age equivalent to that of the Maryland strata. Details in regard to the evidence upon which the conclusion was based are promised in a subsequent paper.

The author has also included a revision of the genus *Cycadeoidea* Buckland, in which the nomenclature is revised in accordance with the law of priority. Forty-two species are enumerated, only seven of which are American. One of these is from the Black Hills locality, and is described as a new species under the name *Cycadeoidea Jenneyana.*

Cycadeoidea Carruthersi is proposed to replace *Mantellia intermedia* Carruthers (1870), the trivial name *intermedia* being preoccupied by *Cycadeoidea intermedia* Ranzani (1836). Attention is also called to the fact that Brongniart wrote the genus name